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PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: A-68112-1/RFT/BTC/DLR

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **RECEIVED**

Application of: Belotserkovshii *et al.*

Examiner: Loeb, B.

JUL 27 2001

Serial No. 09/557,423

Group Art Unit: 1636

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Filed: April 21, 2000

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence, including listed enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Date: July 17, 2001

For: *Locked Nucleic Acid
Hybrids and Methods of
Use*

Signed:

Wendy Wilson
Wendy Wilson

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Applicants have carefully considered the Office Action mailed January 17, 2001. Reconsideration of the claims in light of the remarks that follow is kindly solicited. Accompanying this amendment is a Petition for Extension of time extending the period for response by three months, up to and including July 17, 2001, together with the required fee.

AMENDMENT

In The Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 27, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figures 2A-F depict examples of double D-loop structures. Blank squares depict non-Watson-Crick base pairing. Filled in squares depict Watson-Crick base pairing. Figure 2A depicts a double D-loop without an internal anchoring sequence. Figure 2B depicts a duplex forming heterologous insert through Watson-Crick base pairing. Figure 2C depicts a triplex-forming heterologous insert which is also a locking sequence that prevents DNA rotation. Figure 2D depicts a quadruplex forming